

Message Text

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ORIGIN SSM-05

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DRAFTED BY SSM:J T MCANDREW:MA
APPROVED BY SSM:C W KONTOS
SSM/E:J WALLEN
DESIRED DISTRIBUTION
SSM ONLY

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R 292051Z JUL 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION SINAI

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 178477

FOR SFM DIRECTOR HUNT FROM KONTOS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, UN

SUBJECT: TECHNOLOGICAL IMPROVEMENTS IN UN PEACEKEEPING
ABILITY

REF: SINAI 1479

1. WE DO WISH TO BE AS FULLY RESPONSIVE AS POSSIBLE TO RE-
QUESTS FROM THE UN TO HELP IT IMPROVE ITS PEACEKEEPING
CAPABILITIES. ALSO, WE DO NOT WISH SFM TO HEDGE UNDULY
ITS REPLIES TO QUESTIONS POSED BY THE UNHQ GROUP ON AUGUST
SEVEN. IN THIS CONNECTION, THE ADDITIONAL COMMENTS BELOW
MAY BE HELPFUL.

2. WITH REGARD TO THE RANGE AND OTHER CHARACTERISTICS OF
SENSOR EQUIPMENT, THE ONLY CAUTION WE MEANT TO CONVEY WAS
THAT THE DIFFERENT TERRAIN CONDITIONS OF THE GOLAN MEANS
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THAT THE PERFORMANCE OF VARIOUS SENSORS WILL NOT BE ANAL-
OGOUS WITH SFM'S EXPERIENCE IN THE SINAI. CERTAINLY YOU
ARE FREE TO DESCRIBE KNOWN STRENGTHS AND WEAKNESSES OF
EQUIPMENT, BUT YOU SHOULD LET THE UN MAKE ITS OWN ESTI-
MATES OF PERFORMANCE IN OTHER AREAS WHERE IT BELIEVES
SOIL AND ROCK CONDITIONS ARE SIMILAR TO THOSE IN THE SINAI.

3. REGARDING COSTS, IF THE UN HAS SPECIFIC QUESTIONS YOU MAY PROVIDE A GENERAL IDEA OF THE MAGNITUDE OF EXPENSE INVOLVED IN SETTING UP THE EARLY WARNING SYSTEM, KEEPING IN MIND THAT THE ACQUISITION COST TO SFM IS NOT NECESSARILY A VALID CRITERION. SOME OF SFM'S EQUIPMENT INCLUDES DEVELOPMENT MODELS AND ITEMS OBTAINED AS PART OF A LARGE DOD ORDER, FACTORS WHICH HAVE AN IMPORTANT BEARING ON COST.

4. JIM WALLEN IS MAKING TENTATIVE PLANS TO VISIT SFM IN LATE SEPTEMBER, AND YOU MAY OFFER HIS SERVICES TO BRIEF THE UNHQ TEAM IN JERUSALEM AT THAT TIME. HE IS PARTICULARLY WELL EQUIPPED TO DISCUSS THE LIMITATIONS OF VARIOUS TYPES OF EQUIPMENT BOTH IN TERMS OF ENVIRONMENT CONSIDERATIONS AND MANPOWER REQUIREMENTS. FURTHERMORE, HE COULD PROVIDE A RUNDOWN ON THE FEATURES OF OTHER TYPES OF EQUIPMENT THAT MAY BE AVAILABLE, SUCH AS MAGNETIC AND IMAGING SENSORS WHICH ARE NOT IN USE AT SFM. JIM IS ALSO WELL VERSED IN WHAT WOULD BE INVOLVED FOR THE UN TO UNDERTAKE TO ESTABLISH AN EARLY WARNING SYSTEM ANALOGOUS TO OURS IN THE SINAI. LET US KNOW IF THE UN WOULD BE INTERESTED IN SCHEDULING THIS BRIEFING DURING JIM'S TRIP. IF SO, I BELIEVE IT WOULD BE DESIRABLE FOR YOU TO BE PRESENT.

5. I WISH TO RE-EMPHASIZE THAT WE DO WANT TO BE HELPFUL
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TO THE UN. HOWEVER, THE ASSISTANCE WHICH THE USG CAN RENDER OUTSIDE THE SINAI WILL IN GENERAL HAVE TO BE PROVIDED THROUGH CHANNELS OTHER THAN THE SFM. SFM'S ACTIVITIES IN THIS REGARD MUST BE RESTRICTED TO THE LOCUS OF ITS OPERATIONS AS SET FORTH IN ITS MANDATE. VANCE

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